

Cadet Programs Today

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Cadet of the Year squadrons' nominations due soon

Reminder: CAPR 39-3 spells out the deadlines for submitting the nominations for the Cadet of the Year. The **15 January** deadline for squadron commanders to submit their squadron nominee to your wing commander is fast approaching! ◆

Cadet of the Year wing nominations due soon

Directors of Cadet Programs take note! Just a reminder that CAPR 39-3 spells out the deadlines for submitting the nominations for the Cadet of the Year. The **15 February** deadline for wing commanders to submit their nominee to region commanders is fast approaching! ◆

O Flight How goes it!!

We deeply apologize for the lengthy delay for reimbursements and we greatly appreciate your patience. This month's report will include orientation flights processed in October and November. Our new system is up and running and, although we have encountered some hurdles, we think the major problems have been fixed. We anticipate providing more timely reports in the future, however, we continue to encounter some minor problems and need your help to eliminate them.

Our new system uses a scanner so that we can quickly handle the hundreds of forms you send each month. This scanner has some limitations. It cannot accurately read the old form and it can get confused if there is extra information on the form (hand written notes, stray marks or dates or titles added by fax machines, etc.). Please help us eliminate these problems:

- Only use the new CAP Form 7, dated Sept 01. It is available for download from our website.
- Please ensure that the form is legible and accurate. Have someone that did not fill out the form review it. Chances are, if they have trouble reading the characters, then we will too.
- Please MAIL, do not fax. The general quality of faxes plus the extra information that most machines include in the margins makes it difficult to accurately process.
- The total flight time can include the ferry time but should NOT include back seat "99" flight time.

Just to give you some insight, we are anticipating a new form will be available in January, 2002, that will allow us to provide the more detailed information that wings have been requesting, it will eliminate duplicate entries into the database, and will allow the Wing LO/LNCO to verify. Lastly, we are here to answer any questions that you may have, and we welcome them. ◆

Squadron of Merit and Squadron of Distinction

The annual Squadron of Merit and Squadron of Distinction data will be sent to every wing and region headquarters in January. Details about these awards are in CAPR 39-3.

Just a reminder that the wings' nominations for Squadron of Merit are due to your region and National Headquarters by **February 15, 2002**. Additionally, the regions' nominations for Squadron of Distinction are due to National Headquarters by **March 15, 2002**.

National Special Activities

The deadline for applications is fast approaching. The applications for National Activities must be postmarked by **January 31st**. Just a reminder for wing commanders to rank order the cadets in the wing overall vs. rank order by each activity.

Another 2002 National Activity National Engineering Technologies Academy (NETA)

Are you interested in an aerospace career, but don't have your sights set on becoming a pilot? Are you considering becoming an engineer, but you're unsure of your aptitude, or even what engineers do? Cadet Programs is working to develop a new national cadet special activity this summer that would introduce cadets to engineering through participation in a variety of interactive aerospace activities.

This potential NCSA is still in the works, but some of the hands-on activities we envision include:

- Designing and constructing airfoils, testing them in wind tunnels and learning how to analyze the results
- Exploring the nature of fibrous materials and seeing how cutting-edge technology is creating amazing new hard armor and bulletproofing
- Investigating different propulsion systems, particularly rocket engines, and learning how they are designed and created
- Learning from NASA researchers how flywheels will power satellites, and then designing and building one yourself

We hope to add the NETA to our list of special activities this summer. Tentatively, we plan to require participants to have completed 9th grade and Phase I of the Cadet

Program. Special application procedures would be announced, as the deadline to apply for the other NCSAs will have passed. So don't submit an application yet, but watch for more information in *Cadet Programs Today*, and at our website, www.capnhq.gov.